



# KENTUCKY ADULT EDUCATION REPORT CARD – 2003 GO HIGHER

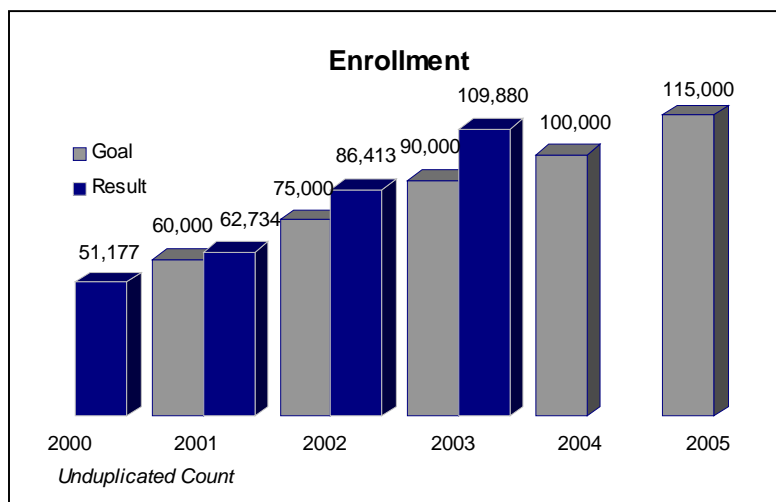
## Kentucky's Challenge:

- In 2000, only 5.0 percent of the 996,000 adult Kentuckians functioning at the lowest levels of literacy were participating in adult education programs. (*Kentucky Adult Literacy Survey, 1997*)
- Nearly one in five (19.2 percent) Kentuckians, 25 and older, do not have a high school diploma or GED, compared to 15.9 percent nationally. (*2002 Current Population Survey – CPS*)
- Eighty percent of new jobs created in the next two decades will require some postsecondary education. (*Adult Learners and State Policy, 2003, State Higher Education Executive Officers and the Council for Adult and Experiential Education*)
- Forty percent (almost one million) of the 2.4-million working-age adults function at the two lowest levels of literacy. (*Kentucky Adult Literacy Survey, 1997*)

## Kentucky measures its success in adult education with five questions.

### Are more Kentuckians participating in adult education programs?

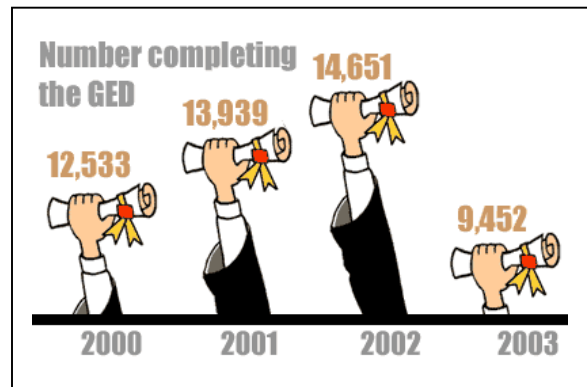
- 37,700 enrolled in Adult Basic Education
- 43,050 enrolled in Workforce Education
- 14,217 enrolled in GED Preparation
- 3,986 enrolled in Family Literacy
- 1,889 enrolled in Distance Education, [www.kyvae.org](http://www.kyvae.org)
- 5,459 enrolled in English as a Second Language
- 7,825 enrolled in Corrections Education



NOTE: Adult education students may participate in more than one area of study.

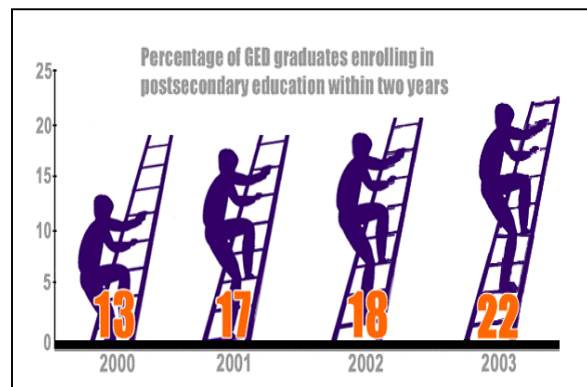
## Are more adult education students meeting their educational goals?

- Kentucky ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. in the percentage of non-high school completers earning a GED. (*GEDTS Annual Report, 2001*)
- In 2001, Kentucky ranked in the top 10 states in GEDs awarded as a percent of all high school completers. (*The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems*)  
 NOTE: National rankings for 2002 are not yet available.



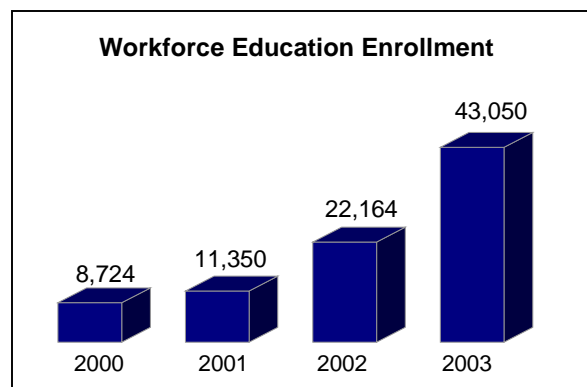
## Are more adult education students advancing on to postsecondary education?

- Nearly 22% of the fiscal year 2001 GED graduates enrolled in postsecondary education by fall 2003.
- Of those who enrolled:
  - 80.9% enrolled in a public two-year institution
  - 14.6% enrolled in a public four-year institution
  - 4.5% enrolled in an independent institution



## Are more adult education students prepared for employment and the changing workplace?

- Kentucky's workforce education programs served 932 companies in 106 counties in fiscal year 2003.



## Are Kentucky's communities and economy benefiting?

- On average, individuals with a high school diploma or GED earn \$6,837 more a year in wages. The potential increased earnings for the 9,452 graduates in 2003 will be more than \$1.2 billion over a 20-year period. (*Mortenson's "Postsecondary Education Opportunity" median earnings in 2001 (U.S.)*).